AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph commencing at page 12, line 24 and ending at page 13, line 5, with the following amended paragraph:

The feedback loop 770 provides closed loop control to enable the system 720 to provide a continual and sustained rate of requests 738. A target RPS input 740, as described above, can be provided to the feedback loop 770 along with an actual RPS input 780. By subtracting the actual RPS from the target RPS or *vice versa*, the feedback loop 770 can provide an error input 784 to the scheduler 766 and/or the data store 750 in order to control the RPS 738. Based upon the error input 784, the scheduler or the data store 750 can attempt to increase and/or decrease the ~~RPS 38~~ RPS 738 to adjust the rate *via* inputs 774 and 778 according to the target RPS 740. According to one aspect of the present invention, the system 720 described above can be provided within a client computer system (not shown). The system 720 can employ various performance counter sets (not shown), which can also be defined by test administrators. It is to be appreciated that all or some of the system 720 portions can be executed within one or more threads, executables, and/or objects, for example.

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